



Clay Community Health Happenings



Nancy J. Mills, Administrator

January 2013

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Clay County Health Department News

HEALTH DEPARTMENT IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM IS A TOP PERFORMER

A recent review of the Health Department's immunization program conducted the first week in November showed the program is doing well. In 2012, the percentage of one-year-old clients up-to-date with their immunizations in 2012 is 90%. This rate meets the state goal of 90% and exceeds the state rate of 88%. The percentage of two-year-old CHD clients up-to-date with their immunizations is 89%, just 1% below the state goal of 90%. Immunization completion rate for seventh-grade students during the 2011-2012 school year was 97.3%. The school immunization coverage rates have exceeded the state goal of 95% for three consecutive years. The review team felt that this accomplishment is "worthy of commendation". Accountability for VFC Program vaccines in 2011 was an impressive 99.96%. The rate is well above the state goal of 95%. The achievement was noted as "remarkable and deserving of recognition". Finally, the reviewers noted that WIC and Immunization Program services are integrated and collaboration with area schools is very good. This report reflects the ongoing

effort of health department staff in serving the community by protecting our children from vaccine preventable disease.

COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN UPDATED

Nancy Mills, Health Department Administrator, presented the Clay County Community Health Improvement Plan Mid-Cycle Update to the County Commissioners at the November 27th meeting. The 5-year plan is based on the Health Needs Assessment completed by a community Task Force in 2010, which identified two strategic issues as important for the health of Clay residents. The goals for the first issue, Overweight/Obesity, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Disease, Stroke are 1) Improve the overall health literacy, along with awareness and understanding of healthy lifestyle recommendations; and 2) Increase/improve access to goods and services needed to support a healthy lifestyle. The goal for the second issue, Substance Abuse/Misuse is to continue coordination with both the clay Action coalition and "tobacco Free Clay" to improve the integration of appropriate intervention messaging, screening and assessment into routine medical care. The

Mid-Cycle report describes and quantifies various activities by community partner agencies around the plan goals. In addition, the report updates data reviewed by the Task Force to assure that the efforts are still aligned with current statistical trends. Both the 2010 report and the 2012 mid-cycle report are available on-line at www.HealthyClayCounty.org and also in hard copy at Clay County libraries.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM RECEIVES RECOGNITION

The Health Department Environmental Health program received recognition for their program performance scores. Robin Eychaner, FDA Inspection/Training officer for the Florida Department of Health lauded their performance in her recent report. During September and October, a self - assessment was conducted to ensure that environmental health programs were in compliance with state requirements. The overall performance score for 2012 was 98%, exceeding the 2009 score of 94%. Individual program scores were: biomedical waste program – 98%; body piercing program – 100%; food hygiene program – 98%; group care setting program – 100%; mobile home/RV program – 97%; and



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tanning facilities – 93%. Recommendations to improve even on this strong performance are part of the process and will be implemented by staff in the coming months.

GREEN COVE SPRINGS CLINIC FILLING A NEED

In 2010, the Health Department received a Low Income Pool Medicaid grant to open the Ed Stansel Clinic in Green Cove Springs and provide safety net primary care services to uninsured adults. Partnering with Orange Park Medical Center, the main goal was to provide a medical home for people with no insurance who were going to the emergency room for non-emergency healthcare. Two years later, data shows that patients are using the emergency room 82.8% less often than they did before they had this medical home. This equates to an estimated \$485,606 in total savings.* In addition, 97% of patients were given information on other community resources, 3% of patients were successfully enrolled in Medicaid; 10% of patients have pending disability applications, and 5% of patients were accepted into the Vocational Rehabilitation program. In addition, 80.2% of 333 patients surveyed, reported a high level of satisfaction in the service they receive at the clinic.

* Based on the average emergency department

average weighted charge for self-pay minor severity and low/moderate severity visits at OPMC for adults ages 18 – 64. (297 visits = \$586,260.61 vs. 51 visits = \$100,674.45)

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STRATEGIC PLANNING

Ongoing and dynamic strategic planning has been a hallmark for the Health Department since 2005. A mid-cycle examination of the current 5-year plan included a review of the Clay County Community Health Improvement Assessment and Plan; the newly adopted Florida Department of Health mission, vision and values; an external trends analysis; an internal SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats); and a review of alignment with the State Health Improvement Plan, the National Prevention Strategy and the FL Department of Health Strategic plan. Based on these activities, strategic issues were identified as Leadership, Partnerships, Resources, Technology and Workforce. From these, “Workforce” and “Technology” were identified as strategic priorities for the coming 2012-2013 Operational Period. In the coming year, the Health Department will focus on improving skills and ensuring a competent workforce and increasing productivity and community access using advanced technology.

QUITTING TIME

Do you or a loved one want to quit tobacco this New Year? The free and convenient services offered by the Florida Department of Health's Tobacco Free Florida can double your chances of success.

If you use tobacco, the most important step you can take for a healthier and longer life is to quit.

Here are 5 tips to help you prepare to quit in 2013:

1. Make a plan. A quit plan is the first step for a successful quit attempt.
2. Make a list of your reasons for quitting and keep it somewhere you'll see it every day.
3. Start thinking about your health. Learn about the many ways tobacco damages your health.
4. Find out how much money you can save at www.tobaccofreeflorida.com/calculator.
5. Believe in yourself. Quitting tobacco is hard. But it's not impossible. In fact, there are more former smokers than current smokers in the state.

Tobacco Free Florida has more ways to help you quit. Create a comprehensive quit plan with the help of the Florida Quitline, Web Coach or Area Health Education Centers' in-person services. Learn more at www.tobaccofreeflorida.com. and Tobacco Free Partnership of Clay County at www.tfp-clay.org.